



BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Water Asset Management, Inc.

Project No. 14414-000

NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY PERMIT APPLICATION ACCEPTED FOR FILING
AND SOLICITING COMMENTS, MOTIONS TO INTERVENE, AND COMPETING
APPLICATIONS

On June 6, 2012, Water Asset Management, Inc., New York, filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), proposing to study the feasibility of the Winnemucca Farms West Pumped Storage Project to be located on the Humboldt River near the town of Paradise Valley, Humboldt County, Nevada. The project would affect federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The proposed project would consist of the following: (1) a 7,835-acre-foot upper reservoir, formed by a 250-foot-high, rockfill earthwork impoundment, with a total storage capacity of 6,000 acre-feet and a water surface area of 101 acres at full pool elevation of 5,295 feet above mean sea level (msl); (2) a 10,230-acre-foot lower reservoir, formed by an 80-foot-high, rockfill earthwork impoundment, with a total storage capacity of 9,350 acre-feet and a water surface area of 204 acres at full pool elevation of 4,385 feet msl; (3) a concrete-lined penstock furcating upstream of the powerhouse to steel-lined penstocks connecting to the pumping units, and a concrete-lined tailrace connecting to the lower reservoir; (4) an underground powerhouse, with vertical Francis-type single-stage pump-turbines totaling 400 megawatts (MW) (2 units x 200 MW) of generating capacity. The annual energy output would be approximately 237,120 megawatthours. Interconnection would be provided at either: (1) a 25-mile-long, overhead single-circuit 345-kilovolt line owned by subsidiaries of NV Energy, Inc.; or (2) construct a local substation to allow for a joint connection with the sister Winnemucca Farms East site project.¹

¹ *Water Asset Management, Inc., Winnemucca Farms East Pump Storage Project, FERC Project No. 14422-000*

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FERC Contact: Brian Csernak; phone: (202) 502-6144.

Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Competing applications and notices of intent must meet the requirements of 18 CFR 4.36. Comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's website <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, mail an original and seven copies to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed or printed on the "eLibrary" link of Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number (P-14414) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Dated: August 8, 2012

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.